

parts; communications equipment; mission planning; software delivery and support; Helmet Mounted Display System/Optimized TopOwl, Target Sight Systems and containers, technical refresh mission computers; ANVIS-9 night vision cueing displays; AN/ARC-210 Generation 6 receiver-transmitter 2036 radio equipment; AN/APX-123A identification friend or foe (IFF) Mode 5 mounting trays and batteries; cartridge actuated devices/propellant actuated devices (CAD/PADs); facilities and construction support; transportation; publications and technical documentation; personnel training and training equipment; countermeasures, including M299 launchers, LAU-61C/A and LAU-68F/A rocket launchers, M151 high explosive warheads for airborne 2.75-inch rockets; MK66 MOD 4, 2.75-inch rocket motors; WTU-1B warheads; M197 20 mm armament pod gun assemblies; 20 mm PGU-27A/B target practice rounds; 20 mm PGU-28A/B semi armor piercing high explosive incendiary rounds; AN/ALE-47 chaff and flare countermeasures system; MJU-32A/B and MJU-49B decoy flares; SMB875B/ALE flare simulators; RR-129A/AL chaff cartridges; RR-144A/AL training chaff cartridges; CCU-136A/A impulse cartridges; AN/AAR-47 missile warning system; AN/APR-39C radar warning receiver and conversion kits; KIV-78A cryptographic appliques; AN/PYQ-10C Simple Key Loader with KOV-21 cryptographic card; U.S. Government and contractor engineering; field service representative services; technical and logistical support services; studies and surveys; and other related elements of logistics and program support.

(iv) Military Department: Navy (LO-P-SAB).

(v) Prior Related Cases, if any: None.

(vi) Sales Commission, Fee, etc, Paid, Offered, or Agreed to be Paid: None.

(vii) Sensitivity of Technology Contained in the Defense Article or Defense Services Proposed to be Sold: See Attached Annex.

(viii) Date Report Delivered to Congress: July 31, 2024.

*As defined in Section 47(6) of the Arms Export Control Act.

POLICY JUSTIFICATION

Slovakia—AH-1Z Attack Helicopters

The Government of Slovakia has requested to buy twelve (12) AH-1Z attack helicopters; twenty-six (26) T-700 GE 401C engines (24 installed, 2 spares); one thousand six hundred eighty (1,680) Advanced Precision Kill Weapon Systems (APKWS), WGU-59/B; and fourteen (14) Honeywell embedded global positioning systems (GPS)/inertial navigation systems (INS) (EGIs) (12 installed, 2 spares). The following non-MDE items will also be included: support and test equipment; aircraft; weapons and munitions; countermeasures; integration and test support; spare and repair parts; communications equipment; mission planning; software delivery and support; Helmet Mounted Display System/Optimized TopOwl, Target Sight Systems and containers; technical refresh mission computers; ANVIS-9 night vision cueing displays; AN/ARC-210 Generation 6 receiver-transmitter 2036 radio equipment; AN/APX-123A identification friend or foe (IFF) Mode 5 mounting trays and batteries; cartridge actuated devices/propellant actuated devices (CAD/PADs); facilities and construction support; transportation; publications and technical documentation; personnel training and training equipment; countermeasures, including M299 launchers, LAU-61C/A and LAU-68F/A rocket launchers, M151 high explosive warheads for airborne 2.75-inch rockets; MK66 MOD 4, 2.75-inch rocket motors; WTU-1B warheads; M197 20 mm armament pod gun assemblies; 20 mm PGU-27A/B target practice rounds; 20 mm PGU-28A/B semi

armor piercing high explosive incendiary rounds; AN/ALE-47 chaff and flare countermeasures system; MJU-32A/B and MJU-49B decoy flares; SMB875B/ALE flare simulators; RR-129A/AL chaff cartridges; RR-144A/AL training chaff cartridges; CCU-136A/A impulse cartridges; AN/AAR-47 missile warning system; AN/APR-39C radar warning receiver and conversion kits; KIV-78A cryptographic appliques; AN/PYQ-10C Simple Key Loader with KOV-21 cryptographic card; U.S. Government and contractor engineering; field service representative services; technical and logistical support services; studies and surveys; and other related elements of logistics and program support. The estimated total cost is \$600 million.

This proposed sale will support the foreign policy and national security objectives of the United States by helping to improve the security of a NATO Ally that is a force for political stability and economic progress in Europe.

The proposed sale will improve Slovakia's capability to meet current and future threats by providing the Slovak Air Force with aircraft to meet its national defense needs. Slovakia will have no difficulty absorbing this equipment into its armed forces.

The proposed sale of this equipment and support will not alter the basic military balance in the region.

The principal contractors will be Bell Textron, located in Fort Worth, TX; and the General Electric Company, located in Lynn, MA. There are no known offset agreements in connection with this potential sale.

Implementation of this proposed sale will require multiple trips by U.S. Government and contractor representatives to Slovakia to participate in program and technical reviews, as well as training and maintenance support in-country, on a temporary basis, for a period of twenty-four (24) months. It will also require approximately two (2) contractor support representatives to reside in-country for a period of two (2) years to support this program.

There will be no adverse impact on U.S. defense readiness as a result of this proposed sale.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 23-79

Notice of Proposed Issuance of Letter of Offer Pursuant to Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act

Annex Item No. vii

(vii) Sensitivity of Technology:

1. The AH-1Z has an integrated avionics system which includes two mission computers and an automatic flight control system. Each crew station has two 8x6-inch multifunction liquid crystal displays (LCDs) and one 4.2x4.2-inch dual function LCD. The communications suite will have COMSEC ARC 210 ultra high frequency/very high frequency (UHF/VHF) radios with associated communications equipment. The navigation suite includes a Precise Positioning System (PPS), Honeywell embedded global positioning systems (GPS)/inertial navigation systems (INS) (EGIs) provided by Selective Availability Anti-Spoofing Module (SAASM) or M-Code, a digital map system, and a low-airspeed air data subsystem.

The crew is equipped with the Optimized TopOwl (OTO) helmet-mounted sight and display system. The OTO has a Day Display Module (DDM) and a Night Display Module (NDM). The H-1 has survivability equipment including the AN/AAR-47 missile warning and laser detection system, AN/ALE-47 countermeasure dispensing system, and the AN/APR-39 radar warning receiver to provide radar and laser warning, and dispense countermeasures.

2. The highest level of classification of defense articles, components, and services included in this potential sale is SECRET.

3. If a technologically advanced adversary were to obtain knowledge of the specific hardware and software elements, the information could be used to develop countermeasures that might reduce weapon system effectiveness or be used in the development of a system with similar or advanced capabilities.

4. A determination has been made that the Government of Slovakia can provide substantially the same degree of protection for the sensitive technology being released as the U.S. Government. This sale is necessary in furtherance of the U.S. foreign policy and national security objectives outlined in the Policy Justification.

5. All defense articles and services listed in this transmittal have been authorized for release and export to the Government of Slovakia.

REMEMBERING KEITH L. ENGLANDER

Ms. MURKOWSKI. Madam President, on behalf of the men and women who serve at the U.S. Missile Defense Agency (MDA) and the countless Americans who have benefited from his distinguished service to our nation, I rise to pay tribute to the life and career of Mr. Keith L. Englander, the MDA's former director for engineering, who passed away on May 2, 2024 at the age of 70.

Mr. Englander gave 45 years of exemplary Federal service to our country and was the driving engineering force behind the missile defense system that protects the United States, our deployed forces, and our allies from missile attacks. He took on and conquered the toughest engineering problems during his service with the Department of the Navy, the Strategic Defense Initiative Organization (SDIO), and later the Ballistic Missile Defense Organization (BMD) and the MDA.

Mr. Englander's passion for aviation was inspired by his life near the Naval Station at Norfolk, VA; volunteering at the Franklin Institute in Philadelphia, PA; and the successes of NASA's Gemini and Apollo programs. In high school, he joined the Junior Engineering and Technical Society and was a member of the local Boy Scout Explorer Post focused on space exploration. He graduated from the Virginia Polytechnic Institute in 1975 with a BS in aerospace and ocean engineering and soon embarked on a long career of civil service.

Mr. Englander's career began with the Department of the Navy in 1975, where he was responsible for the design and development of propellant devices for rocket motors. He later served as chief engineer for the Navy A-6 attack aircraft. He left the Navy for SDIO in 1992 to tackle the pure engineering challenge of intercepting ballistic missiles using space-based weapons. As leader of the Brilliant Pebbles System Engineering and Integration Directorate, he addressed significant challenges, such as miniaturization, that pushed the boundaries of 1990s technology.

In 1995, Mr. Englander assumed the role of the National Missile Defense

(NMD) System engineer and later served as technical director, responsible for all aspects of the NMD system that would eventually become the ground-based midcourse defense (GMD) element that continues to defend our homeland from missile attack. Always an innovator, he was the first NMD manager to use Integrated Product Teams, and he led the engineering and integration that allowed the individually developed weapon, sensor, and battle management, command, control and communications components of the NMD system to function as an integrated network. This integrated approach would later become the foundation of the BMDS engineering process.

In 1997, Mr. Englander was selected to be NMD deputy for system integration and entered the Senior Executive Service, where he pursued a capability-based approach to missile defense requirements, identifying necessary system engineering changes, and leading the team to implement those changes. The result was an evolutionary system engineering process to design, develop, and deliver ever-improving performance increments to the BMDS, which would later be renamed the missile defense system (MDS).

In 2001, Mr. Englander was selected to be the MDA director of system engineering and integration, where he applied the engineering organizational skills developed during his NMD leadership tenure to develop and shape the Agency's engineering processes. In this role, he was a key advisor to the Director and received his first Presidential Rank Award. A firm believer in the value of engineering collaboration, he led the integrated MDA systems engineering team (MDSET) comprised of Government, Industry, Federally Funded Research and Development Centers and University Affiliated Research Centers (FFRDC/UARC), and systems engineering and technical advisory engineers and analysts who focused on developing, integrating, and evolving the BMDS.

As system engineer, he established the technical objectives and goals for the BMDS, including both technical and operational metrics. He continued to shape MDA's engineering processes with his vision to integrate six separate engineering functions within the Agency: system engineering, test, modeling and simulation, targets and countermeasures, manufacturing and producibility, and independent assessment. He created and led the MDA summer study process, translating policy guidance into overarching objectives for missile defense. He continued this process for several years, making him a decisive voice in the development and approval of the Nation's ballistic missile defense development and fielding roadmaps.

In 2003, Mr. Englander became the MDA technical director, charged with articulating Agency programs to the services, Congress, public, and international community. Late in 2004, the

Secretary of Defense directed "Initial Defensive Operations," the first implementation of a limited homeland missile defense, and Mr. Englander personally led the significant engineering effort that allowed this to deploy with a meaningful capability. He was integral to the design, development, and fielding of the GMD system on alert today in Alaska and California that defends our Nation against long-range missile threats from North Korea.

In 2006, as a result of the Base Realignment and Closure, Mr. Englander successfully managed the migration of BMDS engineering functions from the National Capital Region to Huntsville, AL. Later, as MDA implemented a consolidated approach to the contractor workforce, he led the seamless transition of critical engineering niche contractor support efforts into a few performance-based contracts. He also developed and implemented a strategy for centrally managing MDA's FFRDC/UARC efforts to more efficiently apply National Laboratory subject matter expertise to critical technical challenges across the agency.

Mr. Englander also played a significant role in the 2008 satellite shoot-down known as Operation Burnt Frost. Although analysis showed several BMDS elements could achieve the intercept, he reasoned the flexibility and adaptability of the sea-based Aegis ballistic missile defense system offered the least impact to the program and provided the best chance of success. Based on his assessment, Aegis BMD engineers quickly made the required hardware and software modifications, and, with the support of other BMDS and service assets, the Agency successfully executed a pinpoint intercept that potentially saved many lives.

Working with NATO technical committees, Mr. Englander promoted analyses that led to confirmation of the importance of missile defense to the Alliance at the 2009 Strasbourg-Kehl Summit, where NATO heads of state and government supported deployment of U.S. missile defenses in Europe to counter the ballistic missile threat from Iran. As a result, the U.S. began development of a phased, adaptive approach to ballistic missile defense in Europe. Working with the National Security Council and the Under Secretary of Defense for Policy, Mr. Englander refined candidate architectures and provided a variety of deployment options for the placement of missile defense assets, giving State Department and Department of Defense negotiators the required flexibility to conduct meaningful nation-to-nation discussions with countries such as the Czech Republic, Poland, Romania, Bulgaria, Greece, and Turkey. His insightful, quick-turn engineering analysis was critical in obtaining administration and international support of the European Phased Adapted Approach, which included a new weapon system concept known as Aegis Ashore. His work resulted in a more flexible strategy for

regional missile defenses and saved critical national resources.

Throughout Mr. Englander's engineering career, he maintained a close and supportive relationship with the ultimate end user of the systems: the warfighter. In 2012, he saw an opportunity to improve the technical interface between MDA and the combatant commands and international partners. He created a warfighter technical interface organization to serve as the single point of contact to the warfighter for all engineering and technical issues related to the BMDS. This organization was responsible for leading the exchange of BMDS technical information with external stakeholders and assuring BMDS operational performance is correctly represented in the request for analysis and request for information process with combatant commands.

Mr. Englander's effective engineering leadership, which resulted in the unprecedented integration of the BMDS across the three services, did not go unnoticed at the highest levels of the Department of Defense. In 2015, the Department gave MDA the role of Technical Authority for Integrated Air and Missile Defense (IAMD) to lead all the system engineering for joint IAMD interoperability. Mr. Englander led development of a unique modeling and simulation representation of cross-service weapon system kill chains to help identify and implement multiple fixes to service weapon systems and improve interoperability for joint track management, combat identification, and integrated fire control.

Similarly, Mr. Englander established engineering policies and processes for the BMD system and propagated them to the BMDS elements. To rapidly deliver incremental defensive capabilities to the warfighter, he tailored the engineering process to pace the evolving threat, resulting in the Terminal High Altitude Area Defense (THAAD)-Patriot Missile Segment Enhancement integration, which was provided in response to U.S. Pacific Command's Joint Emergent Operational Need in the Korean area of operations. To ensure an enterprise-level solution to a costly and difficult technical effort, he shaped MDA's modeling and simulation program for ground testing. This program provided faithful representations of BMDS elements and components to improve confidence in end-to-end performance assessment.

Mr. Englander received numerous honors over the years, including three Presidential Rank Awards, the American Institute of Astronautics and Aeronautics (AIAA) David R. Israel Award for Meritorious Achievement for International Ballistic Missile Defense, the National Defense Industry Association Outstanding Leadership Award, and the Secretary of Defense's Exceptional Civilian Service Award. In 2016, he was inducted into the Virginia Tech College of Engineering Academy of Excellence and the Virginia Tech Aerospace

and Ocean Engineering Department Academy of Excellence.

Mr. Englander's technical acumen was matched by his gift for leadership. He took care of his people by recognizing their potential, mentoring many rising engineers, and creating opportunities for them to grow. Mr. Englander's legacy lives on at MDA through the talented and capable engineering workforce he trained, the engineering national team he founded, and the analysis quick response team he established.

Mr. Englander's commitment to excellence and pioneering spirit were critical to delivering today's proven multilayered and integrated missile defense system that protects the United States homeland, the men and women of our services stationed overseas, and our allies and international partners. He truly is the father of the modern-day missile defense system.

The achievements of Mr. Englander were on display on April 14, 2024, when Iran conducted an attack on Israel with over 300 weapons, including ballistic missiles, land attack cruise missiles, and unmanned aerial vehicles. The vast majority of the drones and missiles were intercepted by Israel's own air defenses and warplanes and in coordination with U.S. forces. The U.S. Standard Missile-3 ballistic missile interceptor was used for first time in combat, and the Israeli Arrow 3 and David's Sling weapon systems were both used successfully. Mr. Englander's lifetime work enabled the defense of Israel and saved many lives. Although he is no longer with us, he helped realize President Ronald Reagan's dream of making missile defense a reality.

Mr. Englander is survived by his wife Jana of Alexandria, VA; his son Alexander and his wife Sarah of Columbia, MD; and his sister Denise Englander-Kraut and her husband Bill of West Chester, PA. Mr. Englander was the son of Captain Felix (U.S. Navy) and Elaine Englander. I extend my heartfelt condolences to the entire Englander family.

RECOGNIZING 75 YEARS OF BECTON, DICKINSON AND COMPANY

Mrs. FISCHER. Madam President, today, we celebrate the 75th anniversary of the Becton, Dickinson and Company's Columbus, NE, branch. Just after World War II, BD established its first facility outside of its New Jersey headquarters in Columbus. Columbus offered a new frontier for BD to geographically diversify its manufacturing operations. Over the decades, Columbus has grown into a cornerstone of BD's global operations, boasting 2,100 employees today.

Mr. RICKETTS. BD Columbus is at the forefront of innovation and excellence. It celebrated its 50th anniversary of cannula production in 2017, and it has undergone a transformative expansion to become a flagship plastic in-

jection molding manufacturing center. This state-of-the-art facility stands as a testament to BD's legacy of improving lives both locally, within the Columbus workforce, and globally, as it provides critical medical supplies to healthcare systems across the world.

Mrs. FISCHER. From modest beginnings to its rise as a world-class medical technology manufacturer, BD's trajectory has mirrored Columbus's own dynamic evolution. We celebrate this 75-year journey of a storied past, thriving present, and a healthier future.

TRIBUTE TO BECKY LAMBERT

Mr. YOUNG. Madam President, I rise today to recognize a former staff member and friend, Becky Lambert.

Last year, Becky retired after 12 and a half years as constituent services director in my office. In her time serving Hoosier taxpayers, she worked on more than 4,000 cases, helped veterans obtain more than 80 medals, and returned more than \$68 million to individuals fighting to get benefits they were owed. In addition to her accomplishments, her quick wit and bright personality helped to make our New Albany office an amazing place to work.

Becky was born and raised in Prophetstown, IL. She was a brilliant student who earned bachelor's degrees in both criminal justice and accounting. Before joining my staff, she held several different career roles, including helping displaced workers upskill and re-enter the workforce through Business Employment Skills Team. Becky is also a lover of the arts. She is a gifted pianist who has taught countless others over the years. She also created and directed large annual Christmas productions and semi-annual stage productions at her church.

Becky was inspired to enter public service by her father, George "Bud" Thompson, who held many public positions in Illinois, including local school board member. She always said she hoped to emulate his servant's heart, and I can say unequivocally that she succeeded in her mission.

On behalf of my staff and the entire state of Indiana, I thank Becky for her service and wish her the best in retirement.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

RECOGNIZING THE STAR DEMOCRAT

• Mr. CARDIN. Madam President, I rise today to honor the 225th anniversary of the publication of the Star Democrat in Easton, MD. The Star Democrat was founded August 21, 1799, during the first session of the fifth Congress. First founded as the Republican Star, their original philosophy of individual liberty, local autonomy, and limited central government continues to this day.

Since its founding, the Star Democrat has been published during the administrations of 45 of the 46 Presidents of the United States of America and during all but one of the Nation's major wars.

Over the years, the newspaper has merged with other weekly newspapers published in Easton and gone through various name changes, arriving finally at the Star Democrat. In August 1974, the newspaper celebrated its 175th anniversary and converted from weekly to daily publication, 5 days a week.

In the fall of 1978, the newspaper moved from downtown Easton to its current plant at 29088 Airpark Drive. In October 1988, the newspaper launched its Sunday edition, the Sunday Star, now one of its two largest issues of the week. In 1996, the Star Democrat added its Web edition, www.stardem.com.

Throughout its prestigious history, the Star Democrat has overcome many challenges. The office and equipment were destroyed by two fires, it was wrecked by a mob of vandals, and one of its editors was arrested and exiled by Federal troops during the Civil War.

Yet the Star Democrat has continued to persevere and has been a thoughtful voice for Easton and Maryland Eastern Shore for more than two centuries. This longevity is noteworthy at a time when local journalism is under great strain nationwide.

The newspaper is published Sunday and Wednesday through Friday and serves readers in Caroline, Dorchester, Kent, Queen Anne's, and Talbot Counties on Maryland's central Eastern Shore.

On behalf of all Marylanders, I thank them for their dedication to a free press and congratulate them on this major milestone.●

TRIBUTE LARRY A. MIZEL

• Mr. BENNET. Madam President, I rise today to recognize Larry A. Mizel, a great Coloradan, who has contributed significantly to the well-being of our servicemen and women through lifelong philanthropy. On Thursday, August 8, 2024, Mr. Mizel will receive the Navy SEAL Foundation's 2024 Fire in the Gut Award to honor his extraordinary dedication to the brave men and women who serve our country.

For decades, Mr. Mizel has played a pivotal role in supporting the Navy SEAL Foundation's mission to provide immediate and ongoing assistance to the naval special warfare community, improve the health and welfare of Navy SEAL veterans, and empower their families through hardship. Through his generous contributions, Mr. Mizel has helped ensure countless Navy SEALs and their loved ones receive the care, support, and resources they need and deserve.

Mr. Mizel's contributions to our servicemembers and veterans extend beyond his work with the Navy SEAL Foundation. Mr. Mizel has championed the Tragedy Assistance Program for